

# Press Release



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## **Governor Schwarzenegger Appoints Suzanne Ambrose Director of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today announced the appointment of Suzanne Ambrose as director of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing.

"Suzanne shares my commitment to ensuring every California employee and tenant is protected under the law," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "She has dedicated her career to protecting the rights of others and her experience within State government will be an invaluable asset to my administration."

Ambrose has more than 15 years of experience in civil rights law. Over the past four years she has served as supervising deputy attorney general for the Civil Rights Enforcement Section of the Attorney General's Office. Prior to that, she served as chief counsel for the Department of Fair Employment and Housing from 1996 to 2000, as assistant chief counsel from 1993 to 1996 and as staff counsel from 1988 to 1991. Ambrose served as deputy attorney general in the criminal law division of the Attorney General's Office from 1991 to 1993. She is a member of the Greater Sacramento Area Hate Crimes Task force and of the State Architect's Certified Access Specialist Committee.

"I am honored Governor Schwarzenegger has asked me to return to the Department and serve in this capacity," said Ambrose. "I look forward to working with him to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination and educating employers and housing providers about their responsibilities under the law."

Ambrose, 42, of Elk Grove, earned a Juris Doctorate from McGeorge School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Berkeley. This position requires Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$108,753. Ambrose is a Democrat.

The mission of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing is to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations, and from the perpetration of acts of hate violence. The Department has jurisdiction over both private and public entities operating within the State of California, including corporate entities, private sector contracts granted by the State of California, and all State departments and local governments. The Department receives and investigates discrimination complaints in its fifteen district offices throughout the State. The Department also routinely provides technical assistance to employers, business establishments and housing providers regarding their responsibilities under the law. The Department is under the aegis of the State and Consumer Services Agency.